

## STATUS REPORT NOTIFICATION OF INTENT

March 2002

### INTRODUCTION

In January 2001, the Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted revised *Guidelines for Program Planning, Approval and Review* in order to expedite and improve the process for the institutions and HECB alike. One of the major changes in the *Guidelines* includes a new program review and approval process for existing degree programs proposed to be offered at a branch campus, a new off-campus location, via distance learning technologies, or a combination of delivery methods.

The process requires an institution to submit a Notification of Intent (NOI) in electronic format to the HECB at least 45 days prior to the proposed start date of the program. The NOI includes the following information:

- Name of institution
- Degree title
- Delivery mechanism
- Location
- Implementation date
- Substantive statement of need
- Source of funding
- Year 1 and full enrollment targets (FTE and headcount)

HECB staff posts the institution's NOI on the HECB Web site within 5 business days of receipt, and via email notifies the provosts of the other public four-year institutions, the Washington Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Inter-institutional Committee on Academic Program Planning, and the Council of Presidents. The other public four-year institutions and HECB staff have 30 days to review and comment on the NOI via an email link on the HECB Web site.

If there are no objections, the HECB Executive Director approves the existing degree program proposed to be offered at a branch campus, a new off-campus location, via distance learning technologies, or a combination of delivery methods. If there is controversy, the HECB will employ its dispute resolution process.

## STATUS REPORT

From December 12, 2001 through March 27, 2002 the HECB Executive Director approved the following existing degree program in accordance with the NOI process.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degree Title</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>
<b>CWU</b>	BS Industrial Technology	CWU Lynnwood & SeaTac Centers	February 28, 2002
<b>CWU</b>	BS safety and Health Management	CWU Lynnwood & SeaTac Centers	February 28, 2002
<b>CWU</b>	MS Engineering Technology	CWU Lynnwood Center	February 28, 2002
<b>CWU</b>	MS Organizational Development	CWU Lynnwood Center	February 28, 2002
<b>EWU</b>	BS Technology – Applied Technology Option	South Seattle CC	December 27, 2001

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: 2002 SESSION REPORT

Reflects regular session actions through March 14

March 2002

Issue	HECB Perspective	Legislative Action
<b>Supplemental operating budget – overview</b>	Minimize cuts to higher education, preserve current enrollment levels, and ensure adequate financial aid for needy students	Compromise supplemental budget cuts a net of \$62.4 million from original FY 03 higher education appropriation. Reductions of 5% for baccalaureates; 3% for CTCs. Two-year college enrollment increased by 1,320 FTE over original budget; baccalaureate increases unchanged. More information is available from the HECB
<b>Supplemental operating budget -- State Need Grants</b>	HECB supports funding to protect needy students and scholarship recipients from the effect of tuition increases	Legislative budget for State Need Grant continues to serve students whose family incomes do not exceed 55% of the state median. Funding level of \$104.9 million probably will not allow 'dollar-for-dollar' grant adjustments to cover full tuition increases. Funds for financial aid administration will be reduced by \$416,000, 13% less than original FY 03 allowance
<b>Supplemental operating budget -- worker retraining</b>	HECB supports community and technical colleges' request 2,500 new FTEs in retraining programs	Compromise budget supports 1,320 additional FTE enrollments in retraining programs, funded at \$5,000 per FTE (\$4,500 for instruction, \$500 for financial aid). The budget relies on general funds and unemployment compensation funds
<b>Tuition-setting authority</b>	HECB advocates unrestricted tuition-setting authority for four-year boards of regents and trustees and SBCTC	<p>Legislature continues to set tuition caps for resident undergraduates. Tuition limit for 2002-03 is 16% (research), 14% (regionals) and 12% (CTCs). However, colleges and universities receive unrestricted tuition-setting authority for non-residents and graduate and professional programs. Maximum tuition increases would cover nearly 2/3 of cuts for baccalaureates, just over half for CTCs</p> <p>Several bills were considered to establish a multi-year tuition policy. None passed</p>

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<b>Financial aid carry-forward authority</b>	HECB supports making maximum use of financial aid funds for their intended purposes	House and Senate unanimously passed <b>HB 2914</b> , to ensure unspent financial aid funds at the end of a fiscal year are used for their intended purpose. Bill awaits action by Governor
<b>Washington Promise Scholarship</b>	HECB supports enacting Promise Scholarship in statute and urges state to consider extending scholarship to 4 years	<p>Compromise budget provides \$6.3 million for scholarships in FY 2003, down from \$8.75 million in original budget. Two-year awards would go to top 15% of high school graduates (and those who score at least 1,200 on first SAT attempt) with family income up to 135% of median. Scholarships for new recipients next year would be no more than \$1,000; HECB would set value of second-year awards based on availability of funds</p> <p>On March 14, the House and Senate passed <b>HB 2807</b> to enact Promise in statute as a permanent program</p>
<b>HECB member confirmations</b>	Roberta Greene, Gene Colin and Ann Ramsay-Jenkins are awaiting Senate confirmation	Senate confirmed the appointments of Mr. Colin ( <b>GA 9231</b> ) and Ms. Greene ( <b>GA 9199</b> ). Several other appointments scheduled for confirmations on the last day of the session were not acted upon, including ( <b>GA 9244</b> ), Ann Jenkins' reappointment.
<b>HECB membership issues</b>	<p>Chair of HECB currently serves at Governor's pleasure</p> <p>HECB supports adding student as 10<sup>th</sup> member of board</p>	<p>Senate and House both unanimously passed <b>SB 6557</b> to enable HECB board members to elect chair and vice-chair (following the term of the current serving chair). Bill delivered to Governor allows more than one one-year term in leadership posts</p> <p>Senate and House have passed <b>HB 2841</b>, to add student member to HECB. Student would become 10<sup>th</sup> board member. Bill has been delivered to Governor</p>
<b>Grant program for dependent care</b>	HECB currently administers dependent care allowance through State Need Grant	<b>HB 2534</b> , to create a <i>privately funded</i> supplemental grant program administered by HECB, was approved unanimously by House but died in the Senate. Donations would have supported grants of at least \$1,000 per year to Need Grant-eligible students who have children 18 and under

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<b>GET College Savings Plan</b>	HECB executive director chairs GET Committee, which is directed to develop college savings plan	<b>HB 2492</b> , to expand GET Committee's borrowing authority to start college savings plan, died in the Senate
<b>Higher education studies</b>		Compromise budget provides a total of \$60,000 for <b>four studies</b> by the state Institute for Public Policy at TESC. One would examine the mission and operation of the HECB; another would examine issues related to the research institutions' branch campuses
<b>Institutional eligibility for financial aid</b>	HECB supports bill making additional institutions eligible for financial aid programs	<b>SB 5166</b> , to enable students at certain non-profit institutions to become eligible for state financial aid, was passed and has been delivered to the Governor. Amended bill sets criteria that would initially extend eligibility only to Antioch University in Seattle
<b>Collective bargaining by four-year faculty</b>		<b>HB 2403</b> was passed 53-44 by House and 27-22 by Senate and delivered to the Governor. Bill would permit faculty at the six public four-year institutions to engage in collective bargaining
<b>Public interest attorneys loan repayment program</b>		<b>SB 5336</b> , to create <i>privately funded</i> loan repayment program administered by HECB to assist public interest attorneys, was passed by the Senate but died in the House Appropriations Committee
<b>Running Start expansion</b>		<b>HB 2438</b> has been delivered to the governor to enable high school juniors and seniors to attend The Evergreen State College in the Running Start program